

SOUTH DAKOTA STATEWIDE FISHERIES SURVEY

2102-F-21-R-48

Name: Little Perch Dam **County(ies):** Stanley
Legal Description: T109N-R78W-Sec. 29 **GPS:** 44.2141°N 100.2360°W
Location from nearest town: 10 miles S and 5.5 miles E of Fort Pierre

Date of present survey: October 19-20, 2015 (netting)

Date of last survey: None known

Most recent lake management plan: None done

Management classification: Unknown

Primary Game Species	Secondary and Other Species
Largemouth Bass	Northern Pike
Yellow Perch	

PHYSICAL DATA

Little Perch Dam is located in Stanley County, South Dakota. The surrounding land and the dam grade are owned and managed by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and is part of the Fort Pierre National Grasslands. Little Perch Dam is a 3.2 acre pond that was two feet low at the time of the survey with a maximum depth of 14 feet.

No emergent or submergent vegetation data was collected this survey. There is limited boat access that is limited to a canoe or small duck boat that can be loaded and unloaded by hand. Good ice fishing opportunities do exist. No contour map or depth contour has ever been done.

CHEMICAL DATA

No pollution problems were evident at the time of the survey. No other water quality characteristics were measured this survey.

BIOLOGICAL DATA

Methods:

Little Perch Dam was sampled on October 19-20, 2015, with three overnight trap net sets. The trap nets have 3ft x 5ft frames, 60ft leads and ¾ inch knotted mesh. No experimental gill nets or electrofishing was done this survey. Fish indices and statistics were completed using Winfin.

Results and Discussion:

Trap Net Catch

Table 1. Total catch of three, overnight ¾-inch frame nets at Little Perch Dam, Stanley County, October 19-20, 2015.

Species	#	%	CPUE	80% C.I.	Mean CPUE*	PSD	RSD-P	Mean Wr
Yellow Perch	201	77.9	67.0	± 35.2	0.0	0	0	--
Largemouth Bass	53	□□	17.7	± 9.5	0.0	0	0	--
Northern Pike	4	1.6	1.3	± 2.2	0.0	--	--	--

*First year sampled

Yellow Perch

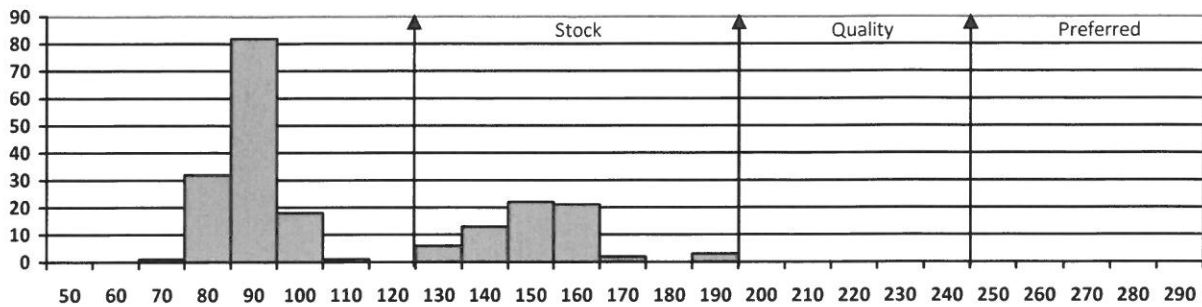
Yellow perch are the dominant fish species sampled in Little Perch Dam this survey. The CPUE was 67.0 fish per net night. The small sample size of three nets for one night does not allow for many conclusions to be made about the population, but it does give a good idea and baseline data to start from. Growth appears to be fine with means right around statewide, regional and SLI means (Table 2). Size structure is small with that being confirmed by the age structure as the population is dominated by young fish. Little Perch Dam has the potential to contain a quality perch population with the density of predators found in the lake as well.

Table 2. Average back-calculated lengths (mm) for each age class of yellow perch sampled from Little Perch Dam, Stanley County, 2015.

Year Class	Age	N	Back-calculated Age	
			1	2
2014	1	54	90	
2013	2	13	85	128
All Classes		67	88	128
Statewide Mean			86	145
Region II Mean			91	152
SLI* Mean			87	142

*Small Lakes and Impoundments

Figure 1. Length frequency histogram for yellow perch sampled from Little Perch Dam, Stanley County, 2015.



Largemouth Bass

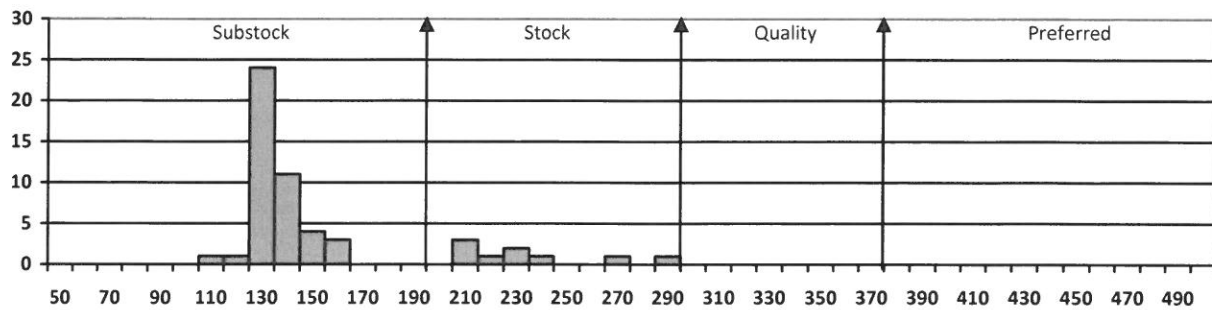
Little Perch Dam also contains a largemouth bass population. The CPUE of 17.7 bass per net night is pretty good considering this is a small sample of only three nets for one night and that bass generally do not sample well in trap nets. The population appears to be dominated by young fish, although larger adult fish may be present but just did not sample in the gear used. Growth is on the slow side with means below statewide, regional and SLI means (Table3). Figure 2 illustrates the length frequency histogram for the fish sampled this survey.

Table 3. Average back-calculated lengths (mm) for each age class of largemouth bass sampled from Little Perch Dam, Stanley County, 2015.

Year Class	Age	N	Back-calculated Age		
			1	2	3
2014	1	43	71		
2013	2	7	60	154	
2012	3	2	61	118	195
All Classes		52	64	136	195
Statewide Mean			96	182	250
Region II Mean			105	183	246
SLI* Mean			99	183	246

*Small Lakes and Impoundments

Figure 2. Length frequency histogram for largemouth bass sampled from Little Perch Dam, Stanley County, 2015.



Other fish populations

Northern pike were the only other fish species sampled this survey period.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Resurvey, when time allows, to further monitor the fish populations and to continually collect trend data on the pond.
2. Attempt to electrofish to see what type of largemouth bass population exists.
3. Make any stockings or transfers of fish out if needed to help the fish populations.